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The Breeze, the student-run newspaper of James Madison University, serves student, faculty and staff readership by reporting news involving the campus and local community. *The Breeze* strives to be impartial and fair in its reporting and firmly believes in First Amendment rights.

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CINEMATIC SYNERGY

CULTURE 14

JMU alumni reconnect in LA to create feature film

COURTESY OF JAMIE BRINDLE



BATTLE WITH THE PACK

SPORTS 18

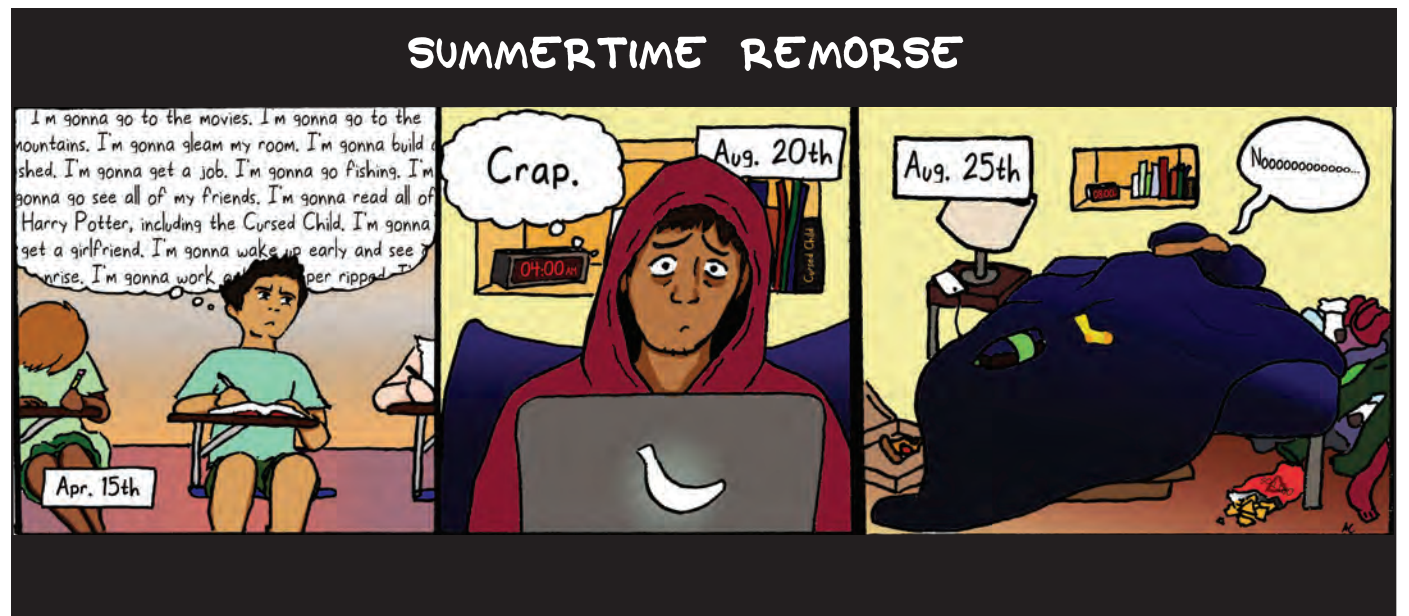
JMU football opens season against FBS foe NC State

TREVOR COCKBURN / THE BREEZE



PHOTO ON THE FRONT:
COURTESY OF AARON BODLE

ALIECE CARNEY | contributing cartoonist



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Thursday, August 30, 2018

Digging up history

JMU graduate students in elementary education program visit James Madison's home for archaeological dig

By THOMAS ROBERTSON
The Breeze

Graduate students in JMU's teaching program took a break from the classroom to dig through pig teeth, ceramic plates and cow bones at an archaeological site in Montpelier from Aug. 20-24. This is the first time the historic site has worked with education students on a dig.

The goal of the dig was to find features in the ground that indicate the past existence of a tree so new trees can be planted in the same spot. Montpelier hopes to restore as much of the 2,650-acre property back to its appearance during Madison's era.

Aaron Bodle, an associate professor in the College of Education, partnered with fellow professor Emma Thacker to start the program. Twelve students studying elementary education went on the weeklong trip with the hope of gaining a deeper understanding of how archaeology plays a role informing narratives of history.

"History is complex, and our history matters, and it is about understanding multiple perspectives of perhaps the same series of events," Bodle said.

While much of Montpelier's archaeological work is for restorative purposes, the site places an emphasis on understanding the history of the people who lived there, especially those whose lives weren't formally documented. The artifacts of enslaved people at Montpelier provide insight into the lives of not only the slaves whose voices are lacking in the historical record, but also that of James Madison.

"We all think of James Madison as this hero, but we learned so much more about his life," Kaitlyn Grizzard, a first-year graduate student in the teaching program, said.

Grizzard said she was inspired by not just what she learned on the dig, but also how she learned. The Montpelier staff told the story of three slaves who supposedly poisoned Madison's grandfather. Afterward, only one of the slaves was punished and his wife never remarried. She was also left in charge of his property, which was rare at the time.

When Grizzard wondered aloud if perhaps his wife actually poisoned him, the staff got excited and told her that was the theory. The memory stuck with Grizzard because she came to the conclusion on her own and she hopes to take that same strategy to the classroom when she becomes a teacher.

Students also visited exhibits containing information and artifacts from the enslaved community at Montpelier. Abigail Maclin, another

first-year graduate student in the teaching program, was particularly inspired by one exhibit that listed out the interests and details of slaves' lives at the property. The final sentence of the slaves' profiles read "I am property."

"I think, for me, in my classroom, I want to start with person first, story first," Maclin said. "I don't want to take away the amazing things that they were able to do and the humans that they were."

One of the artifacts on display at Montpelier is a pipe bowl found in the slave quarters with Lady Liberty and the word "liberty" carved into it. According to Terry Brock, senior research archaeologist at Montpelier, finding an artifact from a slave that embraces the same ideas of their enslaver — an authority on liberty — provides historical insight not readily available in historical documents.

"That object is that person reaching out and reminding us that they were here and that they're part of this American story also and that needs to be acknowledged and presented," Brock said.

Matthew Reeves, director of archaeology and landscape restoration at Montpelier, emphasized the importance of having these future teachers go out and spread this kind of knowledge from Montpelier to their students. While the site hosts about 120,000 visitors per year, Reeves wants to have as large an impact as possible.

"What's really important is to spread the word outside of Montpelier, so people that have never even set foot in Montpelier can learn about what we're discovering about Madison," Reeves said.

Archaeology is used to learn about the past, so it's fitting that Montpelier's archaeology department partners with a number of groups to achieve their goal to LEARN: Locate, Excavate, Analyze, Reconstruct and Network. For example, locate involves working with metal detectors to help survey the vast property, while analyze brings in experts in fields such as ceramics to help study their findings. Reeves said this new program fits perfectly with the final portion of Montpelier archaeology's goal, network.

"It's a really rewarding process to know that what we're sharing with the teachers, they're going to be spreading to their students, and even could inspire those students to want to go into archaeology," Reeves said.

CONTACT Thomas Robertson at breezenews@gmail.com. For more coverage of JMU and Harrisonburg news, follow the news desk on Twitter @BreezeNewsJMU.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF AARON BODLE

The students learned archaeology techniques during the dig.

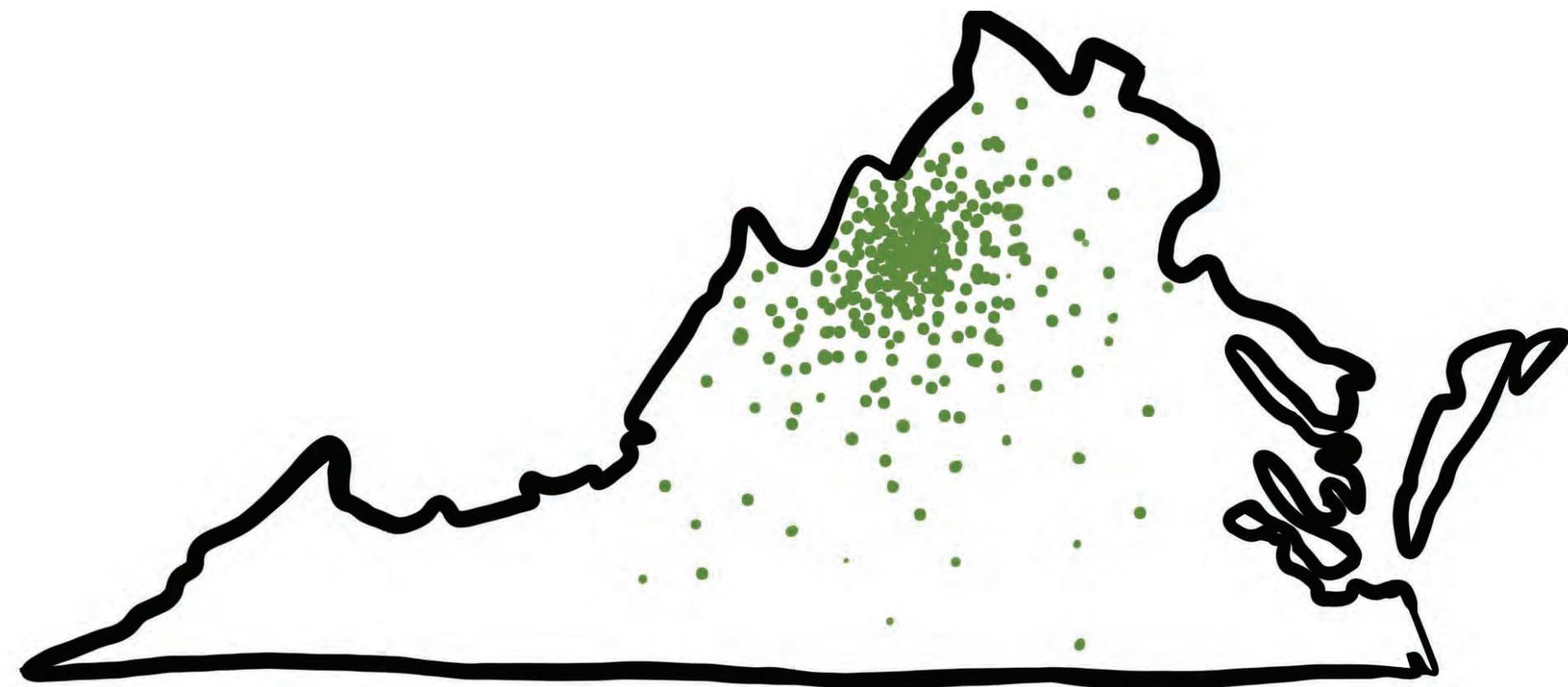


PHOTOS COURTESY OF MATTHEW REEVES

Students excavated the former property of James Madison.

Culture shift

Green Dot program takes proactive approach to power-based violence prevention



KAT ELLIS / THE BREEZE

JMU looks to implement the system from faculty down to students. The school hopes that influential students will be able to spread a culture that helps prevent violence.

By **SABRINA MORENO**
The Breeze

To take a more preventative strategy toward sexual and domestic violence, JMU replaced Dukes Step Up with the Green Dot Initiative. With an emphasis on community effort, Green Dot hopes to replace red dots, which represent violent behavior, with green dots across the map that show individuals willing to do their part.

While Dukes Step Up encouraged a reactive approach by instructing individuals how to respond to violence as it occurred, Green Dot aims to create a cultural change. These acts could be as simple as inserting quotes about being a good bystander in professors' syllabi or posting on social media about violence prevention. Although initial training sessions took place in May, talks of changing the model for violence prevention began last summer with Jackie Hieber, assistant director for sexual violence prevention and survivor advocacy.

Dukes Step Up had difficulties showing the impact of the program past its initial exposure. Since Green Dot has come up as one of the top tier programs in recent years, Hieber pushed it to the forefront, pitching it to senior leadership, academic unit heads and the provost team.

"It felt like it had all the pieces that we need to maybe really make some sustainable change on our campus," Hieber said. "I went to them and I said, 'This is the thing I want to hang my hat on. I feel like this could make a difference.'" Piloted at the University of Kentucky, Green

Dot emphasizes a culture shift, which has led to a 17 percent reduction in violence on campus according to 2010-13 studies conducted on three campuses. Since it relies on evidential support, Green Dot separates itself from other

mobilization and trying to create that culture shift is getting everyone bought in and everyone recognizing that there's something they can do," Hieber said. "It's not necessarily something huge. It's that we all take small moments of our



Green Dot replaces Dukes Step Up, which took a more reactive approach.

TANNER LESLIE / THE BREEZE

bystander intervention strategies by creating guidelines across a variety of campuses and aiming to shift the way students live on a day-to-day basis.

"That's what's different about community

days but if we're each doing something, that adds up to something pretty huge."

For Veronica Jones, associate director for health promotion and well-being, the most significant difference from Dukes Step Up is

how peers aren't facilitators. Working backward, Green Dot training begins with faculty and staff partaking in 32-hour, four-day intensive training that takes them through practice opportunities and skill-based workshops.

It also recognizes barriers that come with being a bystander and introduces how to initiate a domino effect at JMU. In May, Hieber, Jones and Prevention Coordinator Arianna Sessoms joined 40 other faculty members in becoming trainers.

Following this, even more faculty and staff have volunteered to become facilitators. With 200 participating in workshops already, Jones feels hopeful in reaching the 10 to 20 percent of students needed to complete the next stage: finding early adopters.

Early adopters, students who others feel have an influence on campus, are asked to participate in Green Dot and contribute to the cultural shift by living a life that proclaims two of Green Dot's greatest statements: "Violence is not OK with me and everyone must do their part." As a result, Green Dot reaches the more general student population and allows for action events that promote its goals to take place. While it may take a while to reach this stage, Sessoms knows that's what will be needed to create a sustainable impact.

see **GREEN DOT**, page 6

6

GREEN DOT

Violence prevention program hopes to create culture change at JMU

from page 5

"We don't live in a society where violence doesn't happen. We know that it does," Sessoms said. "But eventually implementing maybe two, three more years we'll get to the point that the culture shifts ... People are going to come to JMU and already know that this is a part of our culture."

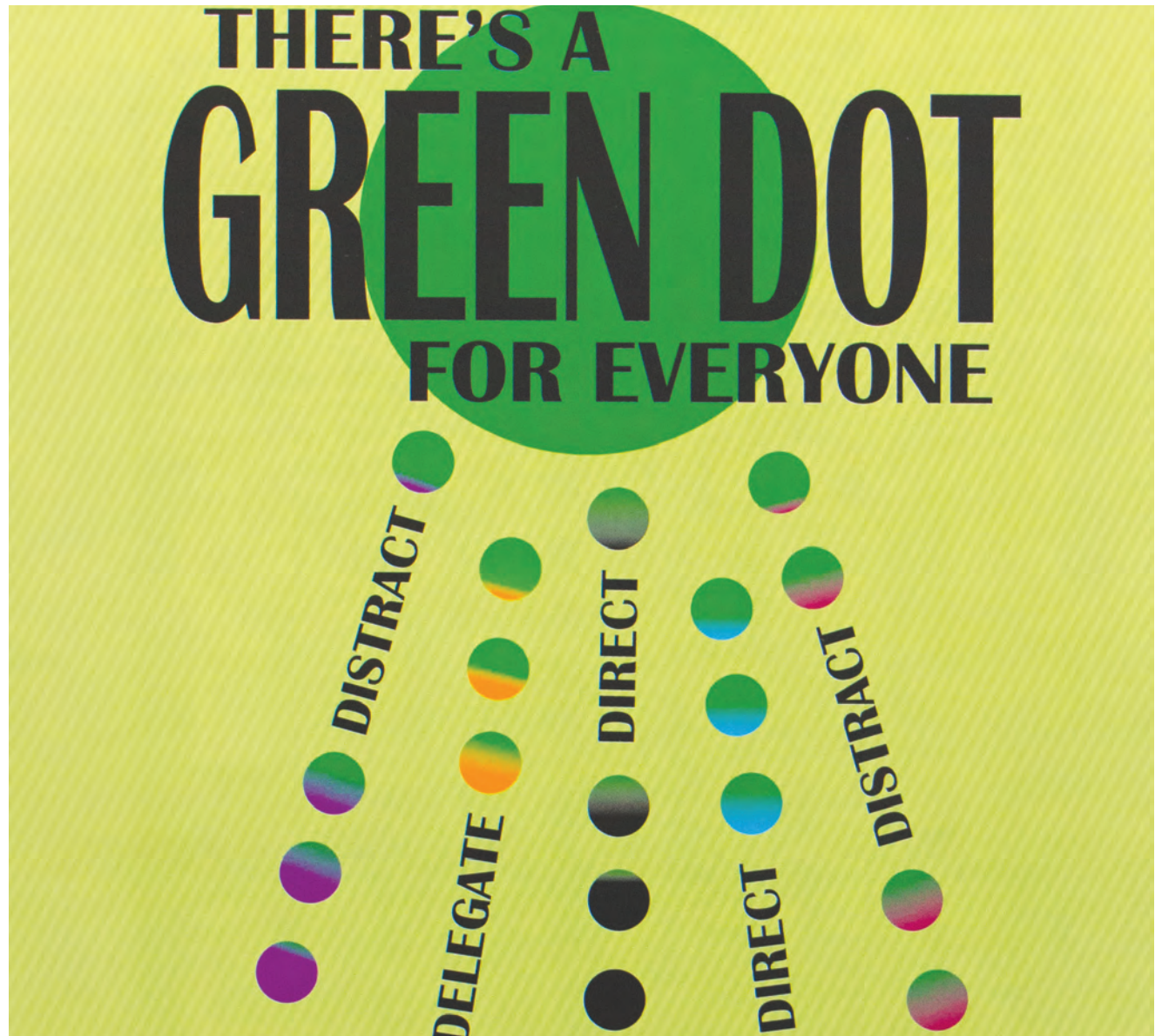
The transition from red dots to green ones can occur with proactive behavior such as a professor putting a green dot on the board to indicate violence isn't tolerated, or reactive behavior like knocking over someone's drink

that's been drugged. The ultimate goal is to prevent the red dots from having the opportunity to show up in the first place.

"If you see something enough times from your community and you hear it enough times from people that you care about and look up to, those become things that you aspire to yourself," Hieber said. "It becomes normal."

CONTACT

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TANNER LESLIE / THE BREEZE

The Green Dot program hopes to prevent sexual violence, domestic violence, stalking and other forms of power-based violence.

Inclusive community *Shenandoah LGBTQ Center to launch in the Valley*

By JESSICA KRONZER
The Breeze

The Valley will soon see the launch of the Shenandoah LGBTQ Center, a place with resources for members of the LGBT community seeking health care, social events, housing and legal assistance. As of Wednesday, its website has raised nearly \$4,000 with two days left to donate.

Chris Wood, executive director and a co-founder of LGBT Technology Partnership and Institute, and his husband grew up in Dayton. His husband and LGBT friends expressed to Wood that there weren't many LGBT resources available in the Valley. Wood explained that many rural areas have centers that support the community. His decision was also promoted by the high suicide rate of LGBT teens.

"I realized that it was the choice between life or death for our community in the Shenandoah Valley to have these resources," Wood said. "To know that they are not alone, and that they are accepted, and that there is a place here for them and that they don't have to leave to feel any of those things."

LGBT Tech is the fiscal sponsor of the center, but it's collecting other donations and grants from the community to fully fund the project. It's also collecting information on local churches, schools and health facilities that support LGBT people, and hopes to have some of these publicly available in September.

Since announcing the center, LGBT Tech has served as the planning space and has also hosted a listening session for community input. According to Wood, over 50 people attended the session ranging from 14 to 70 years old. This session helped establish their four pillars of resources: health care, social, housing and legal help. Wood is hoping to host another session in October.

"We want to make sure that we are capturing the most amount of people that know about the center and know that they have an opportunity to weigh in in a really big way," Wood said.

Jay Cropper, a junior performing arts major at Mary Baldwin University, located in Staunton, Virginia, is the president of the Gay Straight Alliance at her school. Cropper volunteers at LGBT Tech and attended meetings to contribute her ideas and point out resources in her community. She also worked to promote LGBT Tech and the new center around campus through her position as president.

Cropper wants the center to not only impact LGBT people, but also shed light on the issues the community faces to the rest of the Valley. She thinks some parts of the area may have political views that discourage LGBT people from coming out.

"We're hoping to change minds and hearts with this center because it's important to become educated on social issues and what other people are going through," Cropper said. "That's what makes us truly human is being able to empathize with others."



COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

People around the country are advocating for LGBT rights with centers and marches, including at the LGBTQ Chicago Equality rally.

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Thursday, August 30, 2018

Cropper also emphasized that people are a resource and that the center will make people in the community feel less alone. She feels that the impact of a donation sends an inclusive message to those who identify as LGBT living in the Valley.

“It’s important, I imagine especially for LGBTQ youth, to see there are adults who might not be like them but who are ready to have their back and provide this resource for them,” Cropper said.

Chris Cain, the executive director of the Staunton Innovation Hub, has volunteered to create the Shenandoah LGBTQ Center. Her company offers offices and event space to organizations in the Valley, including LGBT Tech.

Cain has spent her life as an ally to the LGBT community and has worked to help create safe spaces for at-risk people. She was there when Woods announced the center and has helped with the project since. She also thinks having a physical space will bring together people with similar mindsets in the area.

“So many people feel alienated by their communities, their employers, their family, because of who they are and I really feel like connecting them to everything from mental health services to getting cell

phones in their hands ... is really important ‘cause who they chose to love can sometimes put them in a place of extreme isolation,” Cain said.

Wood hopes that the center will have a huge impact on how LGBT people feel about their place in the Valley. He hopes that youth who don’t get support at home will turn to the center for acceptance. No matter the person’s age, he wants them to have resources and feel at home in the Valley. Wood’s position with LGBT Tech has given him skills to integrate advanced technology into the center and its website.

“I’m really hoping that we set the new stage and a new bar for what it looks like to be a community center and offer the services that actually meet people where they are,” Wood said. “If that means that someone can’t leave their home or feel safe enough to come into a center, it’ll help them in a way that is impactful and that allows them to truly be themselves and feel supported in a community where they otherwise did not.”

CONTACT Jessica Kronzer at kronzejf@dukes.jmu.edu. For more coverage of JMU and Harrisonburg news, follow the news desk on Twitter @BreezeNewsJMU.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

People of all ages gather to advocate for LGBT rights. This girl participated in a march in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

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NATIONAL

Death toll rises from Hurricane Maria

The Puerto Rican government has disclosed that approximately 2,975 died within five months after Hurricane Maria, compared to the original death toll of 64.

Anti-Hazing Coalition speaks out

Evelyn Piazza and her husband Jim have formed an Anti-Hazing Coalition as a result of their son dying due to hazing at Penn State University in November 2017. Their first goal is to pass legislation in Pennsylvania named after their son, Tim which would make hazing a felony offense.

Two die just outside Disney World

Early Wednesday morning, scaffolding collapsed at a construction site for a new hotel in Orlando, Florida. Two workers who were standing on the scaffolding fell to their death located just outside of Disney property.

STATE

West Nile Virus cases seen in Virginia

The Virginia Department of Health has received several reports across the state for a total of 12 human cases thus far in 2018. According to VDH, the most effective way to avoid WNV is to prevent mosquito bites by wearing long-sleeved shirts, pants and insect repellent.

Police attempt to eliminate drunk driving

The Virginia State Police is expanding its efforts to stop drunk driving by Enforcing the 17th annual Checkpoint Strikeforce. It's working to decrease the amount of alcohol-related driving incidents as Labor Day approaches.

LOCAL

JMU hires former senator

Bill Bolling, former Republican state senator and two-term lieutenant governor, announced over Facebook on Monday that he'll begin a three-year term as a senior fellow in residence for public service at JMU on Oct. 1.

ARREST REPORTS

316

arrests in August 2017

v.s.

325

arrests in August 2018*

Total arrests in week of Aug. 20-26 = 117

Top three arrests of Aug. 20-26, 2018

- Unlawful purchase or possess alcoholic beverage = 35
- Public swearing or intoxication = 21
- Probation violation = 14

*the last five days of this month have been projected

One JMU student dead, another in critical condition following separate incidents

University responds to events that occurred during 1787 August Orientation week

By **ABBY CHURCH**
The Breeze

Over the course of 1787 August Orientation, the community saw two serious incidents. The first resulted in death and the second in critical injury.

Nathan Campbell, a 20-year-old sophomore finance and political science double major, was found dead in his apartment on Devon Lane on Aug. 21. As of Wednesday afternoon, the Harrisonburg Police Department said his cause of death is still unknown.

A 19-year-old freshman who's been identified as

Jared Antle from Williamsburg, Virginia, was transported to the U. Va. Medical Center after a car struck him on West Market Street the morning of Aug. 24. As of a Wednesday afternoon update on the CaringBridge website, he's begun a slow decrease in sedation medication and his ventilator has been turned down so he can breathe slightly on his own. The Harrisonburg Police Department is still looking to identify the driver of the car that hit him.

"We are deeply saddened by several events last week including Nate's death," director of communications and university spokesman Bill Wyatt said in an email. "The university has reached out to all the families involved and offered resources to their friends at JMU."

Dean of Students Josh Bacon said he doesn't remember incidents like these occurring in such a short period of time in the 20 years he's worked at the university.

For those who pass away, Bacon said the university offers its condolences and works to drop the student from classes, as well as halt the sending of information. This could mean

respecting the family members privacy and their child's information by not releasing anything publicly or blocking the mailing of university materials to their residence. He does the same for students involved in serious accidents

and notifies the student's professors if they need to take a leave.

"We want to help them as much as we can," Bacon said. "They're a part of our JMU family. Even if they didn't attend the first day of classes, we do everything we can to help them and be there for them."

Bacon said going through this process twice in the past few weeks has been difficult.

Regardless, the university is working to assist those affected.

"This is supposed to be a good, exciting time," Bacon said. "Going to classes and everyone's excited and then these things really kind of shock everybody and we do the best we can to help people through it."

One thing Bacon said the university aims to do for students affected by accidents is point them in the direction of the university's counseling services. Magali Laitem, clinical psychologist and outreach coordinator at JMU's

Counseling Center, said these resources could vary.

"Once the Center is notified concerning losses on our campus, we reach out to the identified impacted groups with resources (i.e., ways to cope, how to advocate for your needs with professors, what services we provide, how to access our services) and when requested, we will meet with impacted groups in person," Laitem said in an email.

Bacon said the university also helps students if they want to plan a memorial and said assisting with these endeavors helps the community heal. Memorials are student initiated, and as of Monday afternoon, no students have stepped forward to create such an event.

Lieutenant Pete Ritchie with HPD said that although the two incidents that occurred this week seemed out of place, they weren't a spike in the trend. He said there isn't a correlation with students returning, the calls they receive and incidents they respond to.

Ritchie said both HPD and the JMU Police Department plan on having extra patrols out in the community the first four weeks of school. He added that they do this at the beginning of each school

year. Following Antle's accident, Ritchie said extra traffic patrols were out that weekend.

The police often work with JMU to educate students on how to stay safe. Last Thursday, HPD went door to door passing out fliers and educating students on issues such as apartment security and noise complaints. Ritchie says HPD also has constant Facebook posts to keep the community updated on how to be safe.

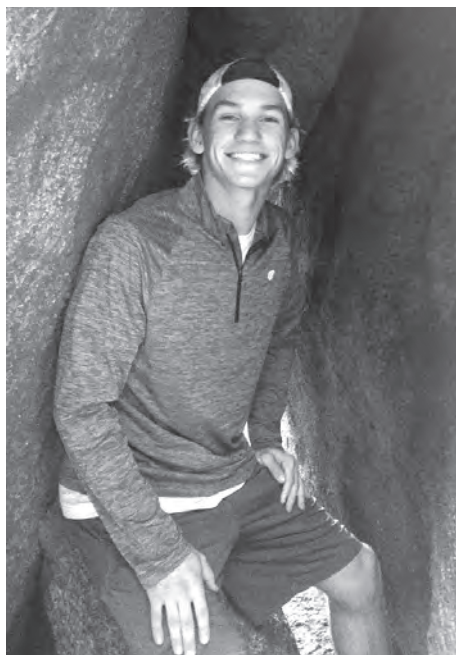


PHOTO COURTESY OF RACHEL LIA

Antle is facing serious injuries after struck by car.



PHOTO COURTESY OF IAN CAMPBELL

Campbell was found dead in Devon Lane residence.

CONTACT Abby Church at thebreezeculture@gmail.com.

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Crash the party

'FROG week' poses dangers to new students as they get a taste of party life



BREEZE FILE PHOTOS

During 1787 August Orientation week, freshmen enter a new world of party culture, leaving their curfews behind.

HANNAH ZEIGLER | *random thoughts*



1787 August Orientation week, better known as FROG week, is when freshmen partake in various activities on campus to get familiar with the school and

FROG week is unique in that it gives students — particularly freshmen — an entire week in which they can drink and go out. During this time, accidents and unfortunate incidents are more likely to occur.

I'm not condemning the amount of partying that occurs during FROG week, as I feel that it can be a wonderful experience for some people. However, there are heightened risks during this week, as freshmen are more vulnerable to alcohol poisoning or other dangers.

Just this past Tuesday, 20-year-old JMU sophomore Nathan Campbell was found dead in his apartment, right when freshmen were arriving. Harrisonburg police are unsure

of how he died, but they suspect no foul play.

This incident, while tragic, has raised alarms of the safety of JMU and its students. While partying and drinking are common place during FROG week, the consequences of doing so unsafely are severe.

This year, I'm living off campus for the first time, and the number of freshmen and other JMU students that I saw walking down the sidewalk drunk was staggering.

I personally was too afraid to skip the designated activities of FROG week in fear of getting in trouble, but I knew several hallmates that skipped night activities to go out.

Incoming freshmen who may or may not

have any prior experience with alcohol may be tempted or persuaded into drinking, sometimes more than they can handle. While partying is inherently not harmful, freshmen should be cognizant of how much they drink.

Freshman girls are particularly vulnerable when they go out, as they might not be familiar with the party culture. Any situation with alcohol is likely to increase risks and the chances of people being taken advantage of.

A rule of thumb for FROG week — and any party — is to have a buddy system. It's never smart or safe to attend a college party alone, especially in an unfamiliar place with alcohol that's provided by strangers.

While FROG week offers many opportunities for freshmen to get involved and meet new people, it's also a week notorious for its parties. For freshmen, partying is exhilarating and unpredictable, but as long as one takes precautions, it should be an unforgettable time.

Hannah Zeigler is a junior media arts and design and anthropology double major. Contact Hannah at zeiglehm@dukes.jmu.edu.



Forest Hills Manor is common place for parties.

Editorial Policies

The Breeze
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The Breeze reserves the right to edit submissions for length, grammar and if material is libelous, factually inaccurate or unclear. The Breeze assumes the rights to any published work. Opinions expressed in this page, with the exception of editorials, are not necessarily those of The Breeze or its staff.

Letters and guest columns should be submitted in print or via e-mail and must include name, phone number, major/year if author is a current student (or year of graduation), professional title (if applicable) and place of residence if author is not a JMU student.

Involvement gone too far

Students too involved in
extracurriculars may face
higher levels of stress

LUKE BORMAN | second thought



Student Organization Night, more commonly known as Student Org Night, is nearly upon us. This Friday night from 5-7 p.m., all of JMU's clubs will come together to woo freshmen, transfers and anyone else interested in joining their organizations. Walking down the aisles on Hillside Field as everyone vies for your attention is undeniably exciting. Everybody wants you and wants you to join their club. Everybody wants your signature and your email on their signup sheet. Up to this point, everyone has been telling you to get out of your comfort zone and make friends in clubs all across campus and this night is your chance. I might be the first to tell you, however, that you don't need to join every club.

My personality type, which I share with many others, is to be as involved in as much as possible. It's probably a manifestation of the fear of missing out. In high school, there's immense pressure to join every club, play a varsity sport, hold a steady job and have a perfect GPA to look good for colleges. Everyone wants to be the perfect well-rounded student, and if you're like me, it led to an average of five hours of sleep per night.

My junior year of high school, I started the Overscheduled Youth of America club with some of my friends — the joke being that we never had any meetings because we had no room in our busy schedules. In college, that pressure to be well-rounded isn't as relevant, but many of us still overburden ourselves.

The whole message we get at Student Org Night is to "be involved," and the Student Activities and Involvement (SAI) website is even called beinvolved.jmu.edu. SAI and Student Org Night are great, but take all things in moderation. You're still involved if you join one club, or just do one thing in the community other than go to classes. We should all be a part of the community and try to make the most of our time here, but we also

shouldn't be too hard on ourselves and should be able to tell ourselves that what we're doing is enough.

As a senior, one of my biggest regrets is spreading myself too thin as an underclassman. Other seniors will say the opposite — that they didn't do enough — but I think that comes from the shock that they're graduating soon. They understandably want to stay at the greatest place on Earth a little longer.

I'm sad to have only one year left, but I wish I had been more careful with my time. Freshman year, I joined club swimming, the Student Government Association, a professional fraternity and four or five other clubs that met weekly. I was doing what I thought I wanted, making the most of my college experience, but I now wish I hadn't.

By the spring of my freshman year, my over-involvement caused problems. I was broke from paying so many club dues. I rushed important decisions like class scheduling and signing a lease for my sophomore year. Most importantly, I couldn't dedicate myself to any one club because I was trying to do them all. It wasn't until my third year when I found balance, dropping everything that didn't truly bring me joy. As a result, I've become a far better member of the clubs and activities I've stayed involved in. In addition, my grades, social life and quality of sleep have improved.

Overcoming my perfectionist's fear of missing out has let me enjoy a far better life. I was so stressed about making the most of my JMU experience that I never slowed down enough to appreciate it. If you're the type of person who can be in 12 clubs and have a genuinely fulfilling life, then by all means, sign up for everything this Student Org Night. But don't commit to anything out of fear or out of pressure to make the most of college. Find one or two clubs you're passionate about and give them your time and energy. You probably only have four years here, so don't waste any of it on being involved in anything you don't love.

Luke Borman is a senior international affairs major. Contact Luke at bormanln@dukes.jmu.edu.



Students are pressured to have busy agendas for well-roundedness.

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Thursday, August 30, 2018

Saluting a patriot

Remembering John McCain, the man who dedicated himself to America

ELI GALIANO | disagree without being disagreeable



John McCain, who died this past Saturday, was an American hero who dedicated his life to serving this country. Memorial services are planned throughout the week, ending with

his burial in Annapolis, Maryland, on Sunday at the Naval Academy, upon his request. Before then, his body will remain at the U.S. Capitol rotunda, an honor given to few statesmen.

He may have lost his battle to brain cancer, but he won the war. According to his former Chief of Staff Grant Woods, "If he showed us how to live, he's also showing us how to die."

His favorite book was "For Whom the Bell Tolls" by Ernest Hemingway, a story about a young boy who goes to fight in a war that's a hopeless cause and yet still gives his life for it. It's fitting because McCain also fought in a war carrying a similar shadow, only he got to live. It's what he did with his "second chance" at life that made all the difference.

Politics are inherently a divisive business. Pundits say it's about winning and losing, but McCain didn't care about that; he cared about serving this country to the best of his ability, both

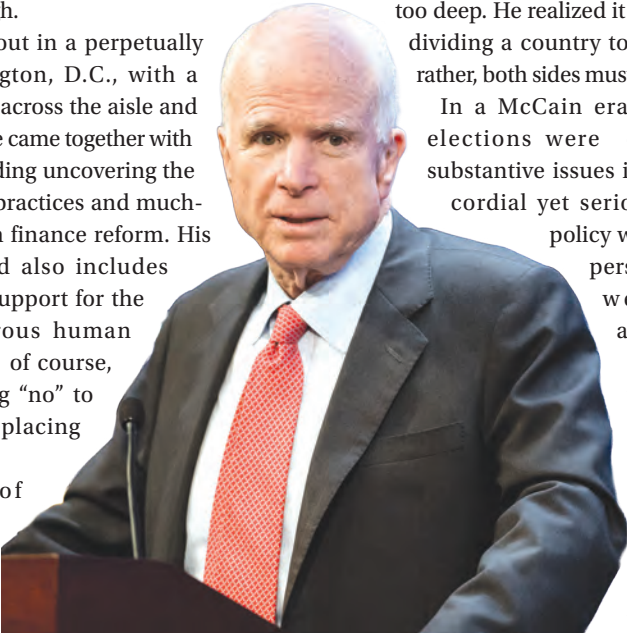
in the military and in the civility he brought to a broken political system.

McCain was a unique politician for a number of reasons. He embodied the service aspect of "public service" — the McCain family has three generations of honorable Naval duty.

During the Vietnam War, his airplane was shot down, and he was then captured and put in an internment camp as a POW. This experience might have set some people back, but for McCain, he powered through.

He also stood out in a perpetually partisan Washington, D.C., with a yearning to reach across the aisle and get things done. He came together with Democrats, including uncovering the Bush-era torture practices and much-needed campaign finance reform. His legislative record also includes unquestionable support for the military, numerous human rights issues and, of course, infamously voting "no" to repealing and replacing Obamacare.

Regardless of one's view of the Affordable Care Act, his vote was justified — it was a statement,



COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

a call to order. In his own words to the Senate, "We're getting nothing done. Let's return to regular order and debate from both sides. Stop listening to the bombastic loud-mouthed influences on the radio and television and the internet. To hell with them."

Above all, he never subscribed to the "win-at-all-costs" mentality of politics; it wasn't worth it for him. He knew the divisions resulting from a vicious political environment could be too deep. He realized it wasn't worth dividing a country to gain power; rather, both sides must abide.

In a McCain era of politics, elections were decided on substantive issues in the face of cordial yet serious debates;

policy was the focus, personal attacks were never allowed.

It used to be that one would compliment their opponent before attacking them. Recall McCain at a

town hall in 2008 famously saying "no" to a woman accusing Barack Obama of being an "Arab."

"No ma'am," McCain said. "He's a decent family man, citizen, that I just happen to have disagreement with on fundamental issues and that's what this campaign is all about."

Sure, McCain could have exploited Obama's middle name to try and win, but he didn't. It wasn't about winning and losing for McCain, but instead doing what's right for the American people.

As Obama said, "For John to say ... 'We're all Americans, we're on the same team,' ... was an indication of who John fundamentally was." That was an American — and he was proud of it.

In one of his last interviews, which re-aired Sunday on 60 Minutes, McCain preferred to celebrate a life well lived when questioned about the magnitude of his nearing death. He merely asked upon his departure, "We just have a couple people that stand up and say, 'This guy, he served his country.'" And that's exactly what will happen this weekend.

Remembering McCain makes us proud to be American. Reflecting on his life summons a spirit of valor enabling us to say to the challenges facing this nation: "Bring 'em on."

Eli Galiano is a junior political science major. Contact Eli at galianes@dukes.jmu.edu.

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The Breeze



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Thursday, August 30, 2018

DARTS & PATS

A **"can-you-not"** dart to D-Hall for always having lines at the door.
From a senior who's waited three years for this dining hall to open.

A **"thank-God"** pat to myself during spring semester for not scheduling Friday classes in the fall.
From someone who enjoys long weekends.

A **"I-don't-like-this"** dart to being back at school only to get sick in the first week.
From a kid who wants to feel better.

A **"can-you-please-shut-up"** dart to my co-workers who won't stop talking and making weird noises.
From an angry employee who just wants to work in peace.

A **"thanks-for-the-screw-up"** pat to Amazon for accidentally sending a Tom Brady poster instead of an OBJ poster to an Odell superfan.
From an 'ecstatic' New England fan.

A **"happy-football-fan"** pat to the calendar for it almost being time for JMU football.
From an excited JMU Nation member.

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A civic duty

ERIC KAUFMANN | SGA Legislative Action Chairman

James Madison once wrote, “The advancement and diffusion of knowledge is the only guardian of true liberty,” in an effort to highlight the need for real debate and discussion regarding political and legislative issues. It’s in that spirit of James Madison University to invite the two candidates up for election in Virginia’s 6th Congressional District for a debate on campus.

Both candidates, Mr. Ben Cline and Ms. Jennifer Lewis, were given the opportunity to have an open discussion on how and why their approach toward governing is best for Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, and the 6th Congressional District. Unfortunately, one of the candidates chose to ignore our request and has refused to attend any such debate on campus.

We at JMU understand that every politician must make a multitude of difficult decisions during a campaign, but whether

to appear in front of thousands of potential constituents should not be one of them. JMU students are just as affected by the upcoming election as any resident in the area.

In a time where young voters and students are making more attempts to ensure their voices are heard, the two candidates should make the effort to ensure that they are not just speaking to those who just agree with them, but with all those who they will represent in Congress.

We within the James Madison University community know JMU will continue to support political and civic engagement and encourage students to be active participants in our democracy.

Eric Kaufmann is the SGA Legislative Action Chairman. Contact Eric at kaufm2ej@dukes.jmu.edu.

SGA Legislative Action Chairman
invites local government
candidates to participate in debate



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Thursday, August 30, 2018

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Bojangles'

From JMU to LA

Alumni collaborate on feature film 'This is My Year' in the City of Angels

By **MEGHAN AHERN**
The Breeze

JMU alumnus Jamie Brindle ('11) has always had a passion for film. In second grade, he cast and directed his first "Star Wars" themed short film in his backyard before premiering it in his school cafeteria. He attended a specialty high school that trained him in video editing and camera work, and went on to graduate JMU with English and media arts and design degrees. After graduation, he lived the suit-and-tie life behind a desk in Washington, D.C., for three months but found himself yearning for something more. He's now set to release his first feature film, "This Is My Year," Oct. 9.

"In the back of my head, I had always wanted to make movies," Brindle said. "I didn't last very long behind a desk because I'd always had this nagging suspicion that if I didn't try it now, I was never gonna try it."

After packing his bags and driving across the country, Brindle moved to Los Angeles to pursue his dream of filmmaking. Since then, he's produced biopic short films, animation, adventure films and stand-up comedy specials for comedians like Andrew Dice Clay, Brad Williams and Ben Gleib that have aired on Netflix and Showtime.

"This Is My Year" is highly character driven, focusing on a year in the life of a young woman named Connor, who has given herself a year to become successful or she'll leave Hollywood and her dream of screenwriting. The movie aims to show everything that happened that year, from the dark side of pursuing dreams to the

successful moments and everything in between — all from the single location of an apartment.

"She's just a very relatable character," lead actress Kanani Rose said. "I think everyone can go in there and take something from her whether you're, you know, young and pursuing a goal or whether you already have achieved those goals and you're older and settled. You can look back on it and be like, 'Oh gosh I remember, I remember living what she lived through.'"

R.J. Haynes ('10), the writer for "This is My Year," also had a passion for television and comedy at a young age. Brindle and Haynes met at JMU while working for The Breeze as video editors before reconnecting in L.A.

Haynes produced his first movie after college, called "Kidney Beans," and then moved to L.A. to pursue his dreams. Once he arrived, he found his passion for writing and wrote comedy clips for shows like "Now That's Funny," which aired in the U.K. "This is My Year" will be his second script to be produced.

"We just got together and said you know, let's just see what we can do with a

nothing budget in a span of a few months," Brindle said.

After sending out scripts to producers and interested cast members, the feedback was almost unanimous. Although not autobiographical for Brindle, much of the feedback was that some of the scenes perfectly captured experiences many people pursuing their dreams encountered, a theme Haynes said is often not shown in films. Haynes said it was the most honest script he has ever written, which is why it only took him a couple months to write it.

"We just both got really passionate about telling this specific story," Haynes said. "That it's OK to feel like a failure when you're pursuing your dreams and pursuing the most important thing to you."

The challenge throughout the process was being able to show and not tell without ever leaving the apartment setting. Due to the film's location, it was shot quickly. They scheduled bedroom scenes during the day and then would move all the equipment from the living room to the bedroom to shoot additional scenes at night. Rose said they shot around 10 pages a day, whereas a usual set structure for films would usually shoot 5-7 pages per day.

"We shot it in my apartment and over the span of 15 days, and so it really is kind of a feat of indie filmmaking strength," Brindle said. "My apartment was never the same after that."

In the future, Haynes hopes to maintain his relationship with the sketch comedy community and aspires to continue with comedy writing. Brindle hopes to keep making feature films and has another short film coming out at the end of the year called "Street Ships," which he shot on the Universal Studios lot. "This is My Year" is now available for preorder and will be available to purchase on all online platforms.

"I want to keep making stories until they don't let me anymore," Brindle said. "Who knows, maybe I'll direct a 'Star Wars,' a real 'Star Wars' movie."

CONTACT Meghan Ahern at breezecopy@gmail.com. For more coverage of JMU and Harrisonburg news, follow the news desk on Twitter @BreezeNewsJMU.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JAMIE BRINDLE

KEEP IT LOCAL

Harrisonburg potter thrives in art community as an artist and teacher

By **BRITTANY BELL**
The Breeze

One of the perks of living in the Shenandoah Valley is the constant view of the Blue Ridge Mountains that paints the landscape with every sunrise and sunset. These sights serve as inspiration to local potter Kassy Newman, who sells her work in Harrisonburg.

With a studio that overlooks the mountains, Newman uses the colors and landscapes of the Shenandoah Valley as her muse. Her plates, bowls and mugs display the blue-purple color scheme found in the area.

"Where we live is such a beautiful place," Newman said. "I just love living here, and I feel totally at peace when I'm up there in the mountains with my dogs."

Newman first got into pottery while attending Bridgewater College and continued to use its art studios after graduation. After bartending for several years at Jack Brown's Beer and Burger Joint, Newman decided to follow her passion after a successful art show. She became a full-time potter and now has her own studio. She makes and sells her work through Larkin Arts.

Larkin Arts is a 4-in-1 center for artists

where they can buy supplies from their store, take classes and get involved with studios and galleries. Some of their artists, like Newman, work on consignment — they can sell their artwork at art shows and markets put on by Larkin Arts.

"Our mission is to create opportunities for artists to show their work, make their work and sell their work," Valerie Whitten, co-owner of Larkin Arts, said. "We want to educate the public on the value of art and what goes into it."

Newman participates in five to six of their art shows a year, though most of her work is sold through her Instagram. While she plans to keep her artwork local and only sell around Harrisonburg, she has recently created a website to help with sales. Larkin Arts also sells her work, and her mugs can even be found at Black Sheep Coffee. While they do sell several mugs at the coffee shop, Newman's are the only handmade ones.

"The community here is so supportive, caring and giving to artists that live here," Newman said. "It always blew my mind that people bought my work; from the beginning, I always felt like I had a good support system."

see **CERAMICS**, page 17



COURTESY OF BUDDY HARLOW

Newman's relationship with Larkin Arts has allowed her to have a center to sell her work and participate in art shows.



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Thursday, August 30, 2018

Straight from underground

From post-punk to pop, here are albums you may have missed

By **GRAHAM SCHILTZ**
The Breeze

Parquet Courts, "Wide Awake!"

Post-punk group Parquet Courts' most recent offering showcases the band's growth over its seven years together. On "Wide Awake!," the band delivers energetic, Southern rock-inflected punk that brought it to fame. Tracks such as "Total Football" and "Almost Had to Start a Fight/In and Out of Patience," show the New York band still has the youthful vitality of a debut album.

Parquet Courts still provides its signature sound, but "Wide Awake!" ventures into diverse sonic territory. "Wide Awake" and "Normalization" are groovy dance-punk numbers in which Danger Mouse's production shows, while "Extinction" pays homage to New York City's golden age of punk in the late '70s. The most interesting tracks on the album, however, are breezy pop numbers like "Death Will Bring Change" and "Freebird II" that recall Steely Dan and The Doobie Brothers. The grab bag of influences on "Wide Awake!" provide an interesting and engaging listen from start to finish.

Claire, "diary 001"

While Claire's work on Bandcamp and

SoundCloud has been prolific, her first label release "diary 001" shows off highlights from previously released singles with a few new tracks mixed in. Viral hit "Flaming Hot Cheetos" exposes a raw pining for love, with lyrics like "I'm such a romantic / I never remember how things really happen." Later in the song, she sings "Girlfriend or girl, that's a friend? / It's easy just to pretend / That we don't have something real," telling a story of many young people's struggle with sexual orientation, especially bisexuality.

The glitzy, heavily-produced pop track "B.O.M.B." featuring PC Music signee Danny L. Harle turns Claire's trademark lo-fi pop to a style that, with more practice, could create commercial radio hits. Irish emcee Rejjie Snow contributes a verse on "Hello?" that fits into a beat



PHOTO COURTESY OF RACHEL JACOB

Parquet Courts' sixth album displays their growth as a modern punk group.

that mixes Claire's bedroom-pop with hip-hop drums effective in housing his bars.

Perhaps the most notable single is "4EVER," a funky summer anthem that signals her

potential as a bonafide pop star. Her chorus of "Is it ever gonna change? / Am I gonna feel this way forever? / Are you gonna be around for me to count on?" proves catchiest on the extended play, as well as the most succinct encapsulation of the themes that run throughout. At only 20, she writes about young adulthood masterfully, simplicistially sharing perceptive observations with endearing familiarity.

Blood Orange, "Negro Swan"

On Devonté "Dev" Hynes' fourth full-length

album under the Blood Orange moniker, his trademark rhythm and blues stylings remain mellow without sacrificing distinction. "Negro Swan" explores the experience of blackness and its societal limitations. Instead of conforming to these boundaries, he uses the album as a vehicle to break free of them. Lines like "Still proud / Best of my abilities still I think about an exit / No one ever will appreciate the way you bare your soul for them," look at how black musicians are often treated. Spoken word occasionally interrupts songs to ask why black people are expected to stay in their place and kept from "doing too much."

Hynes' array of influences show throughout, from the out-of-tune guitars reminiscent of Mac DeMarco on "Charcoal Baby" to the Animal Collective-inspired guitar and reverberant, layered vocals on album closer "Smoke." Dance music presents itself in the breakbeat on "Saint," while "Holy Will" sounds like gospel with a modern twist. All of these elements reveal themselves on "Negro Swan," but the mixture of them proves potent and something only Blood Orange could execute.

CONTACT Graham Schiltz at breezecopy@gmail.com. For more on the culture, arts and lifestyle of the JMU and Harrisonburg communities, follow the culture desk on Twitter @Breeze_Culture.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE 'BURG:

Film & Theater:

Regal Harrisonburg (Friday):
"Operation Finale," "Kin," "Searching"

Court Square Theater:
"Three Identical Strangers," plays through
Sept. 6
"Leave No Trace," plays through Sept. 6

Grafton Stovall:
"A Quiet Place," plays through Sunday

Music:

Concerts in town:

Thursday: College Night at the Golden
Pony at 8 p.m.
Friday: The Barons with Adar at the
Golden Pony at 7 p.m.
Saturday: Larry Keel at Clementine at 8
p.m.
Sunday: Ethan Setiawan at Pale Fire at
3 p.m.

Album releases this Friday:

Meghan Trainor, "Treat Myself"
Troye Sivan, "Bloom"
Iron & Wine, "Weed Garden"

Food:

Looking for somewhere to go to lunch? Head
on over to Mashita. The Korean food truck is
located on East Market Street. Make sure to
hit it up on Saturday because from Sunday
through Friday, it'll be closed.



JMU students run variety
of clothing-oriented social media businesses

PHOTO COURTESY OF SYLVIA MCCLURE

Falvey, McClure and Hendrix all sell their custom clothing through Instagram. They're also all members of the same sorority, Alpha Phi.

By CAMRYN FINN
The Breeze

The digital landscape is constantly changing. Whether ordering food or looking for a new love connection, there's an app for everything that can be found with a simple click. These JMU students have been able to successfully navigate this online world by starting their own businesses on Instagram.

Cat Falvey

Cat Falvey feels at home between racks of clothing. She's spent hours in thrift stores searching through hangers in hopes of finding that one special item that'll inspire her to make something new and unique. While the uncertainty of the items on the shelves may be overwhelming for some, the junior media arts and design major enjoys the surprises she finds every time she walks through the door.

"It's really kind of a guessing game and I take a risk every time I go because you never really know what you're going to find and you never know if it's going to be a good day or not," Falvey said. "In general, I kind of like to see where every thrift store takes me and figure it out as I go along."

Falvey has been making clothing for herself since middle school, but was inspired to start a custom clothes business through Instagram after she received compliments on some of the denim jackets she made for herself. She took a leap into the business side of Instagram and opened @freshstartdenim in December. She's never looked back.

The account focuses primarily on reworking denim pieces and combining them with shirts and other pieces Falvey finds on her weekly trips to the thrift store. Some of her most popular pieces are her best-sellers, which combine vintage T-shirts with sleeves from flannels. She recently has expanded her business by opening

her own Etsy shop and selling her merchandise in the Breakfast Bus Station.

This summer, Falvey had an internship with Marc Fischer Footwear in New York City. The internship has helped her realize her hopes in working in the fashion industry, as it's a combination of many of her passions.

"I'd like to definitely be involved in the fashion industry, but I'm not really sure where this is going to take me," Falvey said. "Hopefully this brand grows and it'll evolve into something as I grow as a person, but right now I am just trucking along and seeing what happens, I guess."

Sylvia McClure

For Sylvia McClure, a love of fashion runs in the family. She remembers seeing her mother sew when she was younger. Working with clothes is familiar to her.

Earlier this year, McClure started an Instagram account entitled @tonguetiedapparel, which specializes in college clothing and spirit wear. The senior health sciences major decided to make an account to share her work when she realized the popularity of students reworking clothing for tailgating and football games.

"I noticed that a lot of girls were trying to look fashionable during tailgates and taking old shirts and turning them into tube tops and stuff like that, so I thought that maybe I could do that for my account," McClure said. "I've actually sold a lot of items to students at JMU, but also other schools across the country as well."

She enjoys running a business on Instagram because of its accessibility and ability to be so personal with each user. She's been able to make connections with many people, both in the JMU community and nationwide. McClure is excited to see her Instagram grow during the school year and to see JMU students with some of her items around campus.

"I'm also excited to see people around at

tailgates wearing my items because I know a lot of incoming freshman have bought stuff that I made, so [I'm excited to run] into them," McClure said.

Lexi Hendrick

Lexi Hendrick never imagined that her Instagram account would take off this much. The senior communication studies major started her account, @radrenewal, earlier this summer and is thrilled with the results.

"I've always loved to play around with my shirts and my clothes and just kind of do my own style, so I decided why not make a business out of it," Hendrick said. "So I started thinking it was going to be a little thing to make a little money on the side, but people actually really enjoyed what I was making. It's working out very well and I want to continue with it after I graduate."

Hendrick started sewing and styling her clothes when she was young and is a self-proclaimed fashionista. She was inspired to make an Instagram account after stumbling upon the business feature on the app and realizing what an interesting tool it is.

Her business has changed her perspective on the fashion industry and her future as a part of it. She's recently taken steps to expand her business even further going into the school year.

"[Through the account] I've learned a lot about myself and my skills because I knew that I was artsy, I used to paint, I used to do a lot of stuff like that, but I never actually realized that I was good at making clothes until I started doing it," Hendrick said. "Which is awesome because it's just what I love to do and I'm very excited about my business."

CONTACT Camryn Finn at finnce@dukes.jmu.edu. For more on the culture, arts and lifestyle of the JMU and Harrisonburg communities, follow the culture desk on Twitter @Breeze_Culture.



TOP PHOTO COURTESY OF LEXI HENDRICK, BOTTOM CAT FALVEY

All the girls started off loving fashion at a young age. They turned their passions into businesses using the business feature on Instagram.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BUDDY HARLOW



CERAMICS | Local potter teaches and creates in Harrisonburg

from page 15

Beyond selling her work, Newman also teaches pottery classes at the Cecil F. Gilkerson Community Activities Center on weekdays. At first, she worked at the center in child care, but after the previous pottery teacher retired back in January, she was asked to fill in.

Newman said that even though verbally teaching physical movements can be challenging, it's worthwhile. Even though she's still nervous about being new to the artist community and to being a full-time potter compared to others, she loves the experience of meeting new people and learning how to show others how to create. As for future endeavors, Larkin Arts plans on adding a ceramics class — though there is no official start date yet — with a four-wheel pottery wheel, and Newman will be the first instructor to teach it.

"[Kassy] has grown so much as an artist," Scott Whitten, co-owner of Larkin Arts, said. "We've watched her really come into her own and create this work that's spectacular and neat, and people really love it."

Despite having only been a full-time potter for a year now, Newman has made an impact on the artist community through her art market appearances and

new teaching positions. Both Larkin owners have stated how genuine her work is, and how her raw talent has continued to grow since continuing to develop her pottery.

"She's wonderful to be around and I think that joy goes into her work and you can feel it when you use a Kassy Newman mug," Valerie said.

Newman plans to continue her full-time pottery career — both creating and teaching — this upcoming year. She has no plans to expand the business and wants to keep it small so the artwork remains genuinely hand-crafted and cared for by her. Rather than having it be a career, her work remains a passion, where the physicality of it all continues to be her favorite part.

"It's so easy to get wrapped up in this everyday grind and hustle, but it's so important to do what makes you happy," Newman said. "We spend too much time doing what we hate, so find a way to do what you love, because it's possible."

CONTACT Brittany Bell at bellbl@dukes.jmu.edu. For more on the culture, arts and lifestyle of the JMU and Harrisonburg communities, follow the culture desk on Twitter @Breeze_Culture.



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Thursday, August 30, 2018

JMU football takes on NC State in 2018 season opener

By **BLAKE PACE**

The Breeze

JMU football's heartbreaking 17-13 loss to North Dakota State in last season's FCS National Championship may still send chills through the bones of head coach Mike Houston and his team, but with the book on last season closed, the focus turns to the upcoming season. While the Dukes enjoyed an easy 34-14 victory over the East Carolina Pirates to commence the 2017 season, the challenge presented for the program to kick off its redemption season is a much different story.

NC State has certain luxuries that JMU Athletics could only dream of: 85 team scholarships, higher program funding and a significant edge on recruitment. Last season alone, the Wolfpack had a program-record seven players picked in the 2018 NFL Draft, including the fifth overall pick in defensive end Bradley Chubb. Putting that into perspective, JMU has just nine players on NFL training camp rosters, meaning that number will possibly be cut in half by the end of the preseason.

What JMU does have in its pocket is a relentless demeanor with unfazed leadership. Time and time again, Houston has preached the notion that the team embraces tall tasks, and the same will be expected Saturday at Carter-Finley Stadium.

For the Dukes to produce a shocking Week 1 victory, they have to follow the four guidelines below. This game has an eerie connection to the 2010 season, when JMU went into a hostile environment against a ranked FBS opponent with a top quarterback and knocked off the Virginia Tech Hokies 21-16. Its ACC foe presents several obstacles, but JMU has the chance to start its campaign with possibly the second-greatest upset in program history.

1. Transition from camp mode to game speed

After a month of monotony on the practice fields, the Dukes are finally ready for some game-time action. With their relentless daily routines in the rearview mirror, players are taking advantage of some of the downtime they have now.

"Obviously with camp, your body is worn out a lot," redshirt junior defensive lineman Ron'Dell Carter said. "Now that camp's over, we get to get our legs back a little bit, try to relax a little bit more, get a little more treatment."

Preparing for the season is a grind, but now the focus turns to changing gears at the right time. Don't prepare enough ahead, and you'll be caught sleeping on game day. JMU has consistently preached the importance of living in the moment. Training camp is in the past and the FCS playoffs are hopefully in the future, but the present is NC State.

2. Force a careful offense to turn the ball over

The tallest task for JMU comes in a 6-foot-4-inch, 212 pound pro-style package at quarterback. Graduate student Ryan Finley, who was recently praised by ESPN NFL Draft expert Todd McShay as his No. 1 quarterback for the 2019 draft, is the real deal. One of his greatest abilities is being careful with the ball; his six interceptions in 2017 were the eighth-best mark in the FBS.

"Obviously, he has tremendous talent," Houston said. "Good size and stature, throws the ball very well. [He] runs extremely well, which is the challenge because you can't just sit there and worry about containing him in the pocket. You have to worry about him when he gets out of the pocket."



JMU linemen run through drills in practice earlier this summer.

TREVOR COCKBURN / THE BREEZE

Hungry like



COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NC State quarterback Ryan Finley ranked in the national top-25 in both completion percentage and passing yards.

This will present a challenge for the JMU defense, one that's been accustomed to forcing turnovers. In 2017, it was hard to find a program better at forcing turnovers than the purple and gold, as it led the FCS with 31 interceptions. The Dukes return two of their top three ball hawks in senior cornerback Rashad Robinson and redshirt senior cornerback Jimmy Moreland, who combined for 15 interceptions last season. Both teams had tremendous success last season, which speaks to the importance of the turnover margin.

"I think it's one of the most critical, if not the most critical, factor every Saturday," Houston said. "They had a great season last year, and they did a great job in the turnover category. We had a great season last year, we did a great job in the turnover category."

Houston has found his team the underdog on few occasions since arriving at JMU, but knows that the turnover battle is one that can have huge payoffs. Not only will it prevent the NC State offense from scoring, but it allows the offense more opportunities to put points on the board.

"In games like this, for us, it's probably magnified even more," Houston said. "If we're going to go in there and have a chance to

do something special, then ... we're going to have to force some turnovers and gain some extra possessions for our offense."

3. Break through a stellar offensive line

While the physical size of the Wolfpack will be tough to bring down this weekend, the monstrous offensive line may be an impenetrable force. With an All-ACC left tackle and one of the best centers in all of college football, the Dukes will have their hands full trying to break through the trenches.

The offensive front is no joke lining up side to side, and its numbers only further its mystique. The O-line allowed Finley to be sacked only once per game, ranking fifth in the nation. It'll intimidate you on the sideline, but bully you on the field.

In a testament to that strength, the JMU defensive line has spent time this offseason bulking up to not just stand a chance this weekend, but have an even greater advantage for the rest of the season. Sophomore defensive lineman Mike Greene, who weighed in at 277 pounds last season, has bulked all the way up to 294.



3. Break through the O-line

JMU defensive lineman John Daka works on his pass-rush technique at practice.

TREVOR COCKBURN / THE BREEZE

the wolves



4. Eliminate outside noise

NC State fans celebrate in Carter-Finley Stadium.

COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

“Big John has been getting us right in the weight room,” Greene said. “All summer we were running, lifting, doing what we have to do to get ready for Sept. 1.”

Greene’s new look is essential for plugging up the middle of the defense and giving less room for the running attack to work through the inside. Players in his position don’t normally stuff the stat sheet with a high number of tackles or sacks, but if there was a stat to measure disrupting the play and freeing up opportunities for other defenders to stop the run or get to the quarterback, Greene would be atop the list.

4. Stay unfazed by the environment

At an assumed max-capacity stadium this Saturday, the Dukes will walk onto the field in front of one of the most intimidating audiences of their collegiate careers. Carter-Finley Stadium holds up to 57,583 screaming fans and though the majority will be cheering for the white and red, that environment can be a mess of distractions. Senior running back Marcus Marshall grew up around the arena in Raleigh, North Carolina, and knows the type

of chaos they’ll be walking into. However, he also knows this team has played under some high-pressure circumstances before.

“One of [Houston’s] big things is just to kill the noise,” Marshall said. “I think the advantage we have is that this isn’t our first time playing on a big stage. A lot of the older guys know how to handle it, but it’ll definitely be a crazy environment.”

While the glitz and glamor of a sold-out ACC stadium can be overwhelming, the Dukes are built to stand their ground in shaky environments. This is the same JMU football program that walked into the FargoDome and upset a dynasty in NDSU just two years ago. While the players may be different in 2018, the message is the same.

“We have a lot of experience in those settings,” Houston said. “It’s good preparation for our kids, and the opportunity for us to play in that kind of atmosphere is something we’re excited about and hopefully we perform well in it.”

CONTACT Blake Pace at breesports@gmail.com. For more football coverage, follow the sports desk on Twitter @TheBreezeSports.

This week in JMU sports:

FIELD HOCKEY
(1-1, 0-0 CAA)



TREVOR COCKBURN / THE BREEZE

NEXT GAMES

Friday vs. American
Sunday at Old Dominion

Volleyball
(3-1, 0-0 CAA)



TREVOR COCKBURN / THE BREEZE

NEXT GAME

Friday at Creeds & Crests Classic

Women's Soccer
(1-3, 0-0 CAA)



BREEZE FILE PHOTO

NEXT GAME

Thursday vs. Penn State

Men's Soccer
(1-1, 0-0 CAA)



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NEXT GAMES

Friday at Cal State Fullerton
Sunday at UC Irvine



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The Breeze

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Thursday, August 30, 2018

He's the captain now

Paul Zazenski goes from assistant to head coach



By **NOAH ZIEGLER**
The Breeze

Just 21 days before the JMU men's soccer regular season began, former head coach Tom Foley stepped away from his position. The 2017 CAA Men's Soccer Coach of the Year left big shoes to fill, but his replacement is ready to bring the Dukes success. His successor is former assistant coach Paul Zazenski.

Zazenski, a graduate from the UNC at Greensboro, comes in with a solid head coaching record. As the head coach for Great Falls, he boasted a 70-23-4 record in five seasons. His resume shows he very well can be the guy to help the Dukes continue to trend upward.

When Zazenski was named Foley's replacement, there was little time for planning. With the season quickly approaching, Zazenski had to handle things swiftly.

"When they announced me as the next head coach, I didn't have time to think about it," Zazenski said. "There were three days until preseason when I found out, so there wasn't a lot of time to really think, rather just go and do. At the same time, I was extremely happy."

Replacing the reigning CAA Coach of the Year is a challenge, no matter the sport. Despite the coaching change, Zazenski plans to continue what Foley put in place during his years as head coach.

"I was on his staff, so obviously carrying through what we've started and what coach Foley has implemented," Zazenski said. "With that being said, [we're going to] try and put our own spin on things because I'm a new head coach, but the concepts are going to remain the same ... We'd be stupid to not continue the things that have worked in the past."

Not only is the head coach of JMU men's soccer expected to bring success and accolades, he's expected to help players develop and become premier athletes. Redshirt sophomore forward Carson Jeffris discussed how Zazenski has helped him in his development as a player.

"He's pushed me to be constantly getting better and not be satisfied with where I am right now," Jeffris said. "He's always taught me what's the next step, what can you be doing better, how you can improve, how can you score more goals, how you can help the team and how you can get better today."

No matter how good a single player is, soccer is a team sport. Graduate student midfielder Yannick

Franz is one of the team's veterans and realizes the importance of improving on an individual basis, but also as a team.

"[Zazenski] is focusing on team building activities to get to know each other," Franz said. "So if there's adversity, everybody can address it the right way. We're focusing on talking to each other, so that way when someone criticizes another, we think 'OK, you just want to help me.'"

For a program to meet high expectations, the standard needs to be set. Zazenski knows what Dukes fans expect, and the team understands that as well.

"[Zazenski] sets a very high standard," Franz said. "He's always like, 'I might bother you by always being the guy who complains, but in the end, it's to make you better.' He wants us to perform to our best level, and I think that's what we need."

Zazenski brings energy to the sidelines that helps motivate his team in tough points during a match. When he brings that vitality, it allows players to improve during practice because they're pushed to a new level.

"The energy he brings to practices and games makes it a lot more intense to play and a lot more enjoyable, rather than be just as if it's another training session," Jeffris said. "It's a job. We have to come here and get better. He provides the energy, so we follow suit."

Of course, life isn't all about soccer for Zazenski. His wife and two children enjoy the family-friendly feel that Harrisonburg has to offer.

"We like to go out to eat and go downtown and go to the market," Zazenski said. "Things like that are excellent when you're trying to raise two small, young ones and a third on the way."

Zazenski wanting the best for his family translates to his passion for helping his players. Franz describes him as ambitious, Jeffris says he's passionate, but if you were to ask Zazenski to describe himself in one word, he'd say hardworking. That attitude is what he'll use to help the team compete in every game they play.

"Get behind us and give us a chance to be successful," Zazenski said. "The support has been amazing in the short time I've been a head coach. We just ask to come out to games and see our brand of soccer."

Will Watson contributed to this report.

CONTACT Noah Ziegler at zieglenh@dukes.jmu.edu. For more soccer coverage, follow the sports desk on Twitter @TheBreezeSports.



COURTESY OF JMU ATHLETICS PHOTOGRAPHY

Men's soccer head coach Paul Zazenski addresses the team at Sentara Park during the Dukes' 4-0 win over Gardner-Webb.

Talking with Technician

A football Q&A with Andrew Schnittker, sports editor for NC State's student-run paper, Technician

sports desk

Ahead of this week's football matchup between JMU and NC State, sports editor of Technician — North Carolina State's student-run paper — Andrew Schnittker sat down to answer some key questions ahead of the clash.

Q: What do you think is the biggest difference between FBS and FCS schools?

The difference is the quality of play. While there are certainly top-tier FCS teams, such as James Madison, that can compete with some FBS schools, the FBS as a whole has a higher quality of play. It's where the best players go; the FBS players are bigger, stronger and more athletic.

Q: What's the general feel of an FBS program when they play an FCS school? Is it any different this week with it being a strong FCS school like JMU?

The feeling around this game has been fascinating to me. NC State doesn't play many FCS schools, and fans and students are curious what a strong FCS team like JMU is like to watch. People know how good JMU is at the FCS level, and are definitely cautious. NC State fans have a bit of an inferiority complex, and the team does have a history of some interesting losses, so fans are cautious about this one. James Madison definitely has the attention of coach Doeren and the players.

Q: What is the outlook of this year's team? Strengths and weaknesses?

This year's team lost a lot from last year, with a program-record seven players drafted into the NFL, but there's a cautious sense of optimism it could improve on last year's 9-4 finish with an easier schedule. The passing attack should be dynamic and one of the best in the country. The Pack lost Nyheim Hines, but should still be able to run the football well. On defense, NC State has to replace a whopping eight starters, including the entire defensive front. While that unit is definitely the weak point, I think it will be better than expected. There's some talented players with at least rotational experience coming back.

Q: Who are some of the stars of the team?

Quarterback Ryan Finley is entering his sixth year of college football. He's coming off a year in which he finished second in the ACC in both completion percentage and passing yards (you

might have heard of the leader there, his name was Lamar Jackson). He's an NFL quarterback, and one of the best in college football. Kelvin Harmon, Stephen Louis and Jakobi Meyers are one of the best trios of receivers in the country. Harmon is an NFL first rounder, and is good for at least one "Mossed" catch per game (seriously, watch his highlights). On defense, end Darian Roseboro is a talented pass rusher who has 13.5 sacks in three years despite not starting, and finally gets his shot as a senior. Linebacker Germaine Pratt (also a senior) is the best playmaker on this defense.

Q: Who are some underrated players?

NC State has three seniors on the offensive line in center Garrett Bradbury, left tackle Tyler Jones and left guard Terronne Prescod who return from one of the best groups in the nation this year. Senior Reggie Gallaspy finally gets a shot as the starting running back, and is motivated to make the most of it.

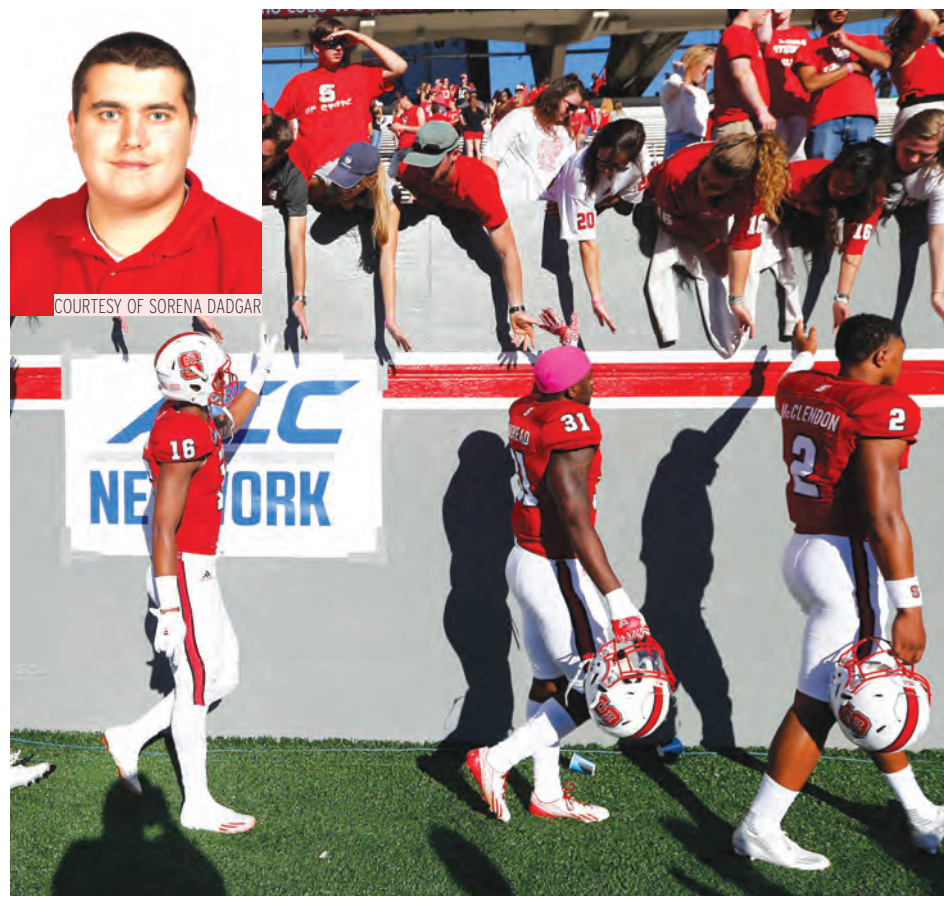
Q: If JMU were to pull off this upset, what would it take from the Dukes on game day?

JMU would need a whale of a defensive effort to pull off this upset. Stopping the run early and often would be huge, as Doeren and offensive coordinator Eliah Drinkwitz hate abandoning the run, and NC State is 0-7 when NC State attempts 40 or more passes. I know the Dukes have some good defensive backs, they'll have to be able to shut down that aforementioned receiver trio. On offense, I know James Madison has some motivated NC natives at running back. Running at the new-look D-line early would be a good move.

Q: What is your prediction for the game?

I think this one will start out closer than people think. James Madison is a good team, and they'll punch NC State in the mouth in the first half, especially with that run game. It wouldn't shock me to see the Dukes even lead at the half. However, as the game goes along, I think NC State's depth and talent will start to show. Finley and his weapons will make some big plays, and the defense will force a couple turnovers. NC State pulls away down the stretch and wins 45-27.

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JMU vs NC State	JMU	JMU	JMU	JMU	JMU	NC State
New Hampshire vs Maine	UNH	UNH	UNH	UNH	Maine	UNH
Michigan vs Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan
Miami vs LSU	Miami	Miami	LSU	Miami	Miami	Miami
Alabama vs Louisville	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
Washington vs Auburn	Auburn	Washington	Auburn	Washington	Auburn	Washington

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FOR RELEASE AUGUST 27, 2018

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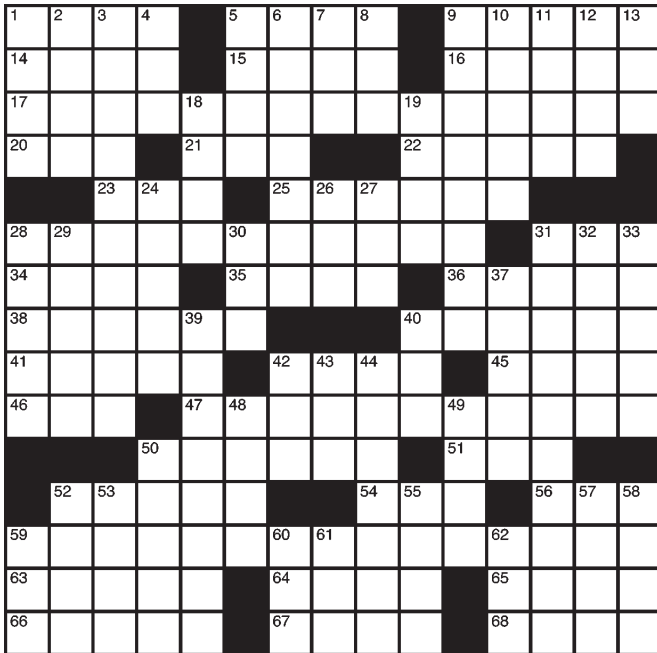
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Apple remnant
- 5 Picket line crosser
- 9 Proverbial waste maker
- 14 Like die-hard fans
- 15 Furry red Muppet
- 16 Snake River state
- 17 Sam Houston served twice as its president
- 20 Rapper Dr. ___
- 21 Shade tree subject to blight
- 22 Lubricated
- 23 Black ___ : covert missions
- 25 Cost for an online pop-up
- 28 General guideline
- 31 Safari automaker
- 34 Wraps up
- 35 Fish trapped in pots
- 36 "Word is ..."
- 38 Geronimo's tribe
- 40 Board meeting outline
- 41 Motherless calf
- 42 Tear canal
- 45 Actresses Long and Vardalos
- 46 Jeanne d'Arc, e.g.: Abbr.
- 47 Credible quality
- 50 Intermittent, as fog
- 51 "To each ___ own"
- 52 Bill Belichick, e.g.
- 54 Boathouse item
- 56 One ___ million
- 59 Hint that a storm is approaching
- 63 Quite heavy
- 64 Cookie in dirt pudding
- 65 Extremely tired
- 66 Desires
- 67 Florist's arrangement
- 68 Indy 500 racers

DOWN

- 1 Birthday ___
- 2 Finished
- 3 One's golden years
- 4 Academic URL ender
- 5 Pitch successfully
- 6 Long-term weather conditions
- 7 "The Walking Dead" channel
- 8 Unhappy fan's shout
- 9 Win the jackpot
- 10 One-named "Skyfall" singer
- 11 ___Coburg, Bavaria
- 12 Former Mississippi senator Cochran
- 13 Dawn goddess
- 18 Kiss, in Cancun
- 19 Shaving lather
- 24 Joe of "My Cousin Vinny"
- 26 FedEx rival
- 27 Country with 11 time zones: Abbr.
- 28 Curls up with a Kindle
- 29 Take out of its container, as a houseplant
- 30 Service charge
- 31 "That's super-creative thinking!"
- 32 Angry with
- 33 Wall Street disaster
- 37 Painter Matisse
- 39 Performer of the 12 labors, to the Greeks
- 40 Justice dept. division
- 42 Party gp. chaired by Tom Perez
- 43 "That's gross!"
- 44 Prairie canines
- 48 "Am ___ only one?"
- 49 Drive-___ window
- 50 Blue Ribbon beer
- 52 1962 Missile Crisis country
- 53 Dark clouds, to some
- 55 Sailor's hail
- 57 Close by
- 58 Creative pursuits
- 59 Movie theater division
- 60 Comics' Alley ___
- 61 To's partner
- 62 Peacock logo network



By C.C. Burnikel

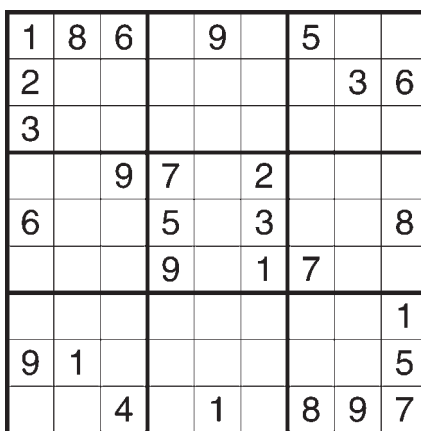
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2018 JMU Football Preview

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tight spiral

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cannon arm
strong pocket awareness





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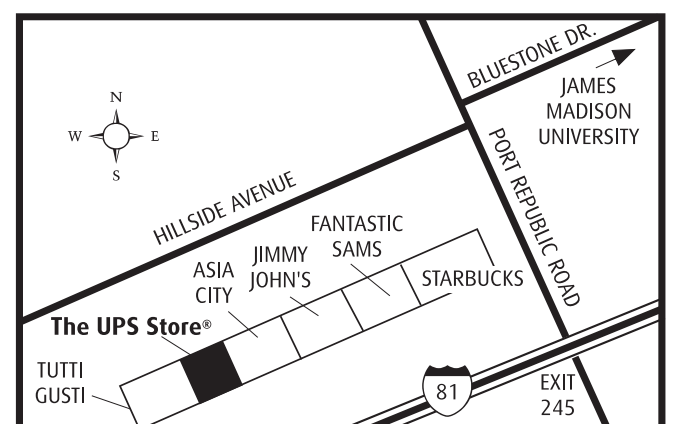
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How a brutal schedule and significant loss of talent present the most difficult season of the Houston regime

TREVOR COCKBURN / THE BREEZE



Sept. 1

COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NC State's Ryan Finley is touted as one of the best signal callers in college football, leading a Wolfpack group hungry for ACC success.



Oct. 6

JAMES ALLEN / THE BREEZE

Last year's CAA Offensive Rookie of the Year Davis Cheek aims to lead Elon to its first postseason win in program history.



Oct. 13

JAMES ALLEN / THE BREEZE

The Dukes will travel to Villanova (5-6, 3-5 CAA in 2017), after a 30-8 victory last season in Bridgeforth Stadium.



Nov. 3

BREEZE FILE PHOTO

Trevor Knight and company are the biggest in-conference challenge for JMU this year, especially with the game being held in Durham.

By **BLAKE PACE**
The Breeze

Through two full regular seasons under head coach Mike Houston and Co., things have begun in tremendous fashion. With a 21-1 regular season record and perfect conference record, the real competition seems to only take place in the postseason. The Dukes have outscored their regular season opponents 920-357 and have

held them from scoring over 21 points on 18 different occasions — including all 11 games in 2017. Even in the four games the JMU has given up more than three touchdowns, it still holds a 3-1 record.

The Dukes sole regular season loss came at the hands of the 2016 North Carolina Tar Heels and, to put that 56-28 loss into perspective, UNC's quarterback is now starting for the Chicago Bears. Houston has

dominated the regular season, but that may not be the case in 2018.

Earlier this August, JMU football was tabbed as the No. 2 ranked team in the STATS FCS preseason poll. While there were no surprises in the top four teams — North Dakota State, JMU, South Dakota State, Sam Houston State — there were some intriguing names in the top-25. Along with the Dukes, five other CAA programs — New Hampshire (No.

7), Elon (No. 12), Delaware (No. 15), Villanova (No. 19) and Stony Brook (No. 20) — were named among the FCS's elite.

"I think the CAA's probably as strong this year as it's been," Houston said. "You look at our schedule, which is probably the toughest it's been since I've been here. We only have five home games ... It's a tough road schedule for us and it's going to be a challenging task for us this year."

JMU will face all conference opponents save Delaware and will have to travel to play both New Hampshire and Villanova. In the previous two seasons combined, the Dukes have had to face only five top-25 ranked teams. There are so many intangibles that can work against a team in any given season, but the 2018 schedule alone doesn't play into JMU's favor as it did in 2016 and 2017.

HOUSTON | 'All those seniors that have played so many snaps for us the last several years are not here anymore'



While the schedule stands in the way of the Dukes' fourth consecutive CAA Championship, the purple and gold have internal issues to work out as well. Fourteen valuable starters — including three offensive linemen and five members of the defensive front seven — have moved on from their collegiate days, forcing several new names to fill holes.

"Well we know everybody's name now," defensive coordinator Bob Trott joked. "We're getting better ... We've got the transfers that have come in and they've picked it up pretty well, we've got some young players. It's a different team, but we're getting better."

As with a majority of collegiate programs — and almost all of the successful ones — the plan to replenish massive losses began almost years in advance. Unlike the NFL, where contracts and a salary cap can retain elite talent for a majority of their careers, college players have four to five seasons — six, if you're graduate student running back Cardon Johnson — before

hanging up the cleats. Recruiting, bringing in transfers and grooming underclassmen is essential in maintaining relevancy, a massive focus for the coaching staff this past offseason.

"We understand that last year and the year before is in the past," Houston said. "Every year is a new year and every team is a new team. All those seniors that have played so many snaps for us the last several years are not here anymore. There's a certain level of play that we expect in all phases, and we're not going to accept anything less than that."

Not only will the new faces at JMU look to replicate the talent on the field, but they'll also need to find their voice in the locker room. The 2017 team captains — quarterback Bryan Schor, offensive lineman Aaron Stinnie, defensive lineman Andrew Ankrah and safety Raven Greene — served as leaders on and off the field. The summer sessions have served as a platform for new leaders to step into the spotlight.

"You can kind of tell that if something in

practice goes wrong, certain guys will speak up at different times," senior cornerback Rashad Robinson said. "Certain guys really stand out when they come to the leaders, by vocal or just leading by example on the field."

Despite a difficult schedule and a turnover of talent, JMU is expected to survive. It was picked as favorites to win the CAA, and five Dukes — including Robinson — were placed on the STATS FCS Preseason All-American Team. They have a trio of transfers who hope to make immediate impacts to go along with an elite running back committee and lethal secondary. Houston has made a tremendous name for himself as one of the best coaches in the FCS, but a successful season amid possible obstacles will only further his legacy.

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Carter highlights the importance of brotherhood on the field, contributing to the success of the team.



PHOTOS BY JAMES ALLEN / THE BREEZE

Doin' it for the culture

Ron'Dell Carter is poised to be the next star on the defensive line

BLAKE PACE
The Breeze

After the team breaks the huddle following another scorching practice under the sun, redshirt junior defensive lineman Ron'Dell Carter takes off his pads and No. 5 jersey, making his way to the locker room. A quick stop with local media stands in his way, but after some light conversation, he drops his pads off at his locker and gets in his post-practice routine.

He proceeds to hit the ice tubs, followed by getting the proper treatment he needs to work out the daily kinks in his body, a norm for most athletes. But then things get particular. Due to low potassium levels, he knocks back a shot of pickle juice and follows that up with a pickle spear or two and a protein shake.

Such commitment to his health has been the focus on his development this offseason. He's quicker off the line, more swift with his pass-rush techniques and less fatigued at the end of a tiring day. His play has earned high praise from the head chief.

"He's one of our best defensive players," head coach Mike Houston said. "He's had a great preseason camp ... and he's a guy that kind of sets the tone for us on that side of the ball."

Carter is approaching his second season as

a Duke, transferring from the Big Ten after two seasons at Rutgers. He's the younger brother of redshirt senior linebacker Robert Carter Jr., but his 6-foot-3-inch, 268-pound frame makes him anything but little.

Filling out the depth of the defensive line in 2017, he sat behind some of the biggest names in recent JMU history. Andrew Ankrah, Simeyon Robinson and Cornell Urquhart combined for 49 sacks and over 430 tackles in their JMU careers, and Carter has taken something from each of them to heart now that they're no longer exploding through the trenches with him.

"When we were winning last year, it wasn't because we were talented," Carter said. "Obviously we had talent, but we were winning because we were a brotherhood. I think it's imperative that people really understand that. Like we were winning because we care for one another."

Carter's approach this offseason has been one of the brightest surprises for the JMU coaching staff. He's a relentless worker, handles himself well on and off the field and has the can-do ability to turn into a star up front. His transition into a vocal leader on the team has also garnered praise throughout the organization.

see **CARTER**, page 19

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WE ABOVE ME

JMU offense puts team chemistry before individual accolades

By **CATIE HARPER**
The Breeze

With only a few days left until the Dukes take the field in Raleigh, North Carolina, against FBS foe NC State, JMU's offense is ready to continue its strong showing under coordinator Donnie Kirkpatrick.

Dealing with the biggest turnover on the offensive side of the ball JMU has seen under head coach Mike Houston, the Dukes have a lot of empty roles to fill. After a season that saw JMU go 14-1 (8-0 CAA) and rack up 6,285 yards of total offense, the Dukes have a lot of expectations to live up to this year.

Heading into the 2018 season, there are still some questions about what the offense will look like for the Dukes. Even though it's not decided who will start in certain spots — most notably at quarterback — the offense hasn't let that slow the unit down.

"It's just giving your all to whoever is back there throwing you the ball," redshirt junior wide receiver Riley Stapleton said. "You've got to know who's in, how to adjust to those quarterbacks. You've got to make sure you do their job because you want to build a chemistry with both of them."

Redshirt junior Ben DiNucci and junior Cole Johnson have been competing for the starting quarterback role throughout the offseason. Houston has said throughout preseason practices that fans will find out the starter when the Dukes take the field against NC State.

"Right now, and preparing for NC State, we've got to put the guy out there that's going to give us the best opportunity to be competitive and to have a chance to win that ball game," Houston said. "It's going to come down to who is going to consistently make the right decisions, who is going to take care of the football [and] who's going to be able to get the ball to our player makers."

With a hard schedule ahead of them — one that contains only five home games — the

Dukes have worked to make sure everything about the team will make them stronger than their opponents. One of the main things JMU has worked on is team chemistry.

Throughout summer workouts and preseason practices, Houston put a big emphasis on team camaraderie. With a large group of true freshmen coming into the mix, the older guys have made sure everyone buys into the team aspect of the game.

"I feel like once you have that good chemistry and you have that sacrifice — that mindset of sacrifice — each and every down for the guy next to you and playing for your brothers, I feel like, you know, the sky's the limit," graduate student running back Cardon Johnson said. "I think that's going to be the X factor, just having that good chemistry and that good bond."

Along with the team's chemistry, Kirkpatrick believes this year's offense is the most talented he's seen in his time at the university — even despite losing players like Bryan Schor, Terrence Alls and Aaron Stinnie. While it's not enough to just have talent, it doesn't hurt to have a lot of it.

Toward the end of last season, players like Stapleton and senior running back Marcus Marshall started to come into their own. In the playoffs alone, Stapleton had 17 receptions for 428 yards and three touchdowns, while Marshall contributed 376 rushing yards and five touchdowns in the Dukes' postseason push. If the tandem of Stapleton and Marshall wasn't scary enough, the Dukes also have Johnson, senior running back Trai Sharp, senior wide receiver David Eldridge and redshirt sophomore transfer running back Jawon Hamilton in their arsenal.

"It's still left to be determined how we'll play out there," Kirkpatrick said. "Injuries sometimes are a factor in that, just how much desire these kids [have to] keep going ... every now and then, you just got to get lucky, but we're obviously, I think, the most talented we've been on offense in three years."



PHOTOS BY JAMES ALLEN / THE BREEZE

Riley Stapleton put together a strong sophomore campaign with 42 receptions, 615 receiving yards and a team-high five touchdowns.

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Over the last few days of practice, Kirkpatrick has seen the team start to come together. With kickoff quickly approaching, he believes the Dukes are about ready to go.

"I think the offense is starting to peak right now," Kirkpatrick said. "You always want to be good, but you do want to keep getting better and you want to be your best right when the season starts ... Obviously, we're still making mistakes [but] we're making a lot less mistakes."

For Houston, he's witnessed the team's talent shine through during preseason camp. Houston expects players like Stapleton, Johnson and others to step up and make key plays for the Dukes this season.

"We have skill guys that can run and make plays," Houston said. "If we can ... do a great job with execution, we should be able to get those guys in one-on-one situations with

opposing defenders. Any time we can put stress on our opponent, you know, whether it be by formation, motion, whatever, to get our skill guys the ball in open space is going to be really a key for us being successful."

As the season begins, the expectations are high in the eyes of the players. While they'd love to score every time they get the ball, they know the possibility of that happening is slim. For Johnson, the expectation for his team is simple.

"Enjoy each and every game," Johnson said. "Play hard, play fast, play physical and have fun."

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Jimmy Moreland waits to storm the field before a game last season.

JAMES ALLEN / THE BREEZE



LAURA VANDEMARK / THE BREEZE

Defensive turnover

JMU defense aims to remain strong
after losing key players

BLAKE PACE

The Breeze

Catapulting the 2017 JMU football program to a 14-1 (8-0 CAA) season last year was the superb defense, led by head coach Mike Houston and defensive coordinator Bob Trott. With three defensive FCS AP All-Americans and nine CAA All-Conference selections, the Dukes led the nation in interceptions (31), total sacks (51) and team passing efficiency defense (83.12), while ranking top five in defensive touchdowns (5) and total defense (252.0). They carried the Dukes all last season up until the FCS National Championship game, and despite the team suffering its sole loss, they still registered three

sacks and a forced fumble.

The Dukes are hungry and ready to play Saturday, but this isn't the same defense that JMU Nation has known and loved the last two years. Last year's seniors accounted for 15 interceptions, 33.5 sacks and three defensive touchdowns — roughly half the team's total production. Their talent and passion ignited the Dukes beyond the locker room as well.

So in comes the 2018 defense, and with it, the same expectations. The turnover is undeniable, but the younger guys have been training for this job since they first put on their purple and gold jerseys.

see **DEFENSE**, page 12



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DEFENSE | 'It's just one of those things that mentally I feel great, physically I feel even better'

from page 10

"Luckily, coach Houston emphasizes practicing like you want to be a starter, so the guys that were second string prepared themselves as if they were starters," redshirt junior defensive lineman Ron'Dell Carter said. "In all essence, they don't really have to try to play catch-up and try to learn because they were learning last year."

The root of their success stands at cornerback, where senior preseason CAA Defensive Player of the Year Rashad Robinson and redshirt senior HERO Sports Third Team Preseason All-American Jimmy Moreland reside. They remain the most essential part of this defense and its ability to function, which is even more important this year since the rest of the defense is a work in progress.

"Just getting them all into the playbook," Moreland said. "We lost a lot of seniors last year, and just trying to bring everyone together so we can have that chemistry on the field."

The Dukes graduated both starting safeties Jordan Brown and Raven Greene, and summer sessions have played into favor of junior Adam Smith and redshirt sophomore D'Angelo Amos. Both are expected to start in the back of the defense, and the strength of the corners in man coverage will provide them with the freedom to float around in the passing defense and keep their attention on the quarterback's eyes.

The only remaining question in the secondary is finding a place for the ultra-talented athletes who aren't in the starting 11. Senior cornerback Curtis Oliver and redshirt sophomore safety Wayne Davis, a transfer from Ohio State, are too good to sit on the bench. The coaching staff has experimented with Oliver at outside linebacker this summer, and they expect him to come on in nickel packages as well. Things are a little more difficult for Davis,

but they've put an emphasis on finding a way.

"When you look at it, he has to be on the field somewhere, and we're monkeying around right now with different places to play him," Houston said. "He's too good a player and he's been such a positive impact in every face — in the locker room, around the facility and on the field — but you've got to find ways to get him on the field."

One guy the Dukes won't have to worry about getting on the field is redshirt junior linebacker Dimitri Holloway. After starting nine games as a sophomore in 2016, Holloway was sidelined from injury for the 2017 season after just one game. The journey to Holloway's return hasn't been easy, but he's glad to get through the summer in his best health.

"This is the best I've felt in the last year and a half or two years," Holloway said. "It's just one of those things that mentally I feel great, physically I feel even better."

Being healthy is just one of the key factors in Holloway's return. The other, and possibly the more impressive of the two, is how he looks on the football field.

"I also think he's in the best shape he may have ever been in," Houston said. "He's trimmed down some, he's moving a lot faster. I think he's playing with a lot of confidence right now and I think you can continue to see that progress."

With a healthy Holloway and an organized rotation, the Dukes are equipped to get their best men on the field. While the strength of the secondary can shut down a passing offense, the big boys up front will benefit from an extra focus on the run game and more time to get to the quarterback in passing situations. The team will need to experiment with different ways to get all their stars on the field, but the coaches certainly aren't upset with their abundance of talent.

"The thing is, I've never seen a coach yet say he had too many good players," Houston said.

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CAA POWER RANKINGS

THE DUKES ARE FAVORITES TO WIN THE CAA ONCE AGAIN, BUT THERE'S SOME STIFF COMPETITION BEHIND THEM

MATT WEYRICH | THE BREEZE

1. 

The Dukes still don't know who'll be calling plays under center Week 1, but this team is talented enough around the quarterback position to warrant being the conference favorite regardless of who's named the starter.

2. 

Owners of the longest active streak of consecutive playoff appearances in the NCAA (14), the Wildcats are a force to be reckoned with after returning most of the squad that got UNH all the way to the FCS quarterfinals a season ago.

3. 

Don't let last year's 5-6 record fool you; Villanova is stocked full of talent. Injuries were the downfall of the Wildcats in 2017, but second-year head coach Mark Ferrante is poised to go deep into the postseason with this squad if it can stay healthy.

4. 

Although the Blue Hens missed the postseason last season, former Richmond coach Danny Rocco likely won't let that happen again. They also have one game that everyone should have circled on their calendars: North Dakota State.

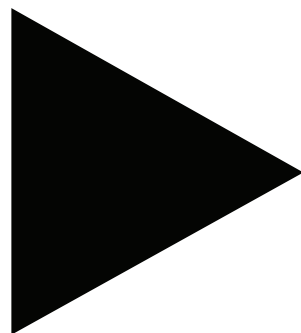
5. 

Following an impressive 8-1 start in 2017, the Phoenix faded down the stretch before losing in the first round of the playoffs. Their quarterback, Davis Cheek, was the CAA Rookie of the Year last season and Elon will go as far as he can take it.

6. 

The Seawolves lost several key pieces on both sides of the ball, but made it to the second round of the playoffs last season. They still boast one of the best signal callers in the CAA in Joe Carbone, who had a breakout season last year.

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JMU's biggest rival lost its starting quarterback to the New York Giants in the NFL Draft, but still boasts a deep roster capable of returning to the postseason. The Spiders' wide receiver corps is one of the deepest in the conference.



A young team, Towson could turn a few heads if running back Shane Simpson stays healthy. The Tigers return nine starters on the offensive side of the ball and could quickly move up the standings if they get off to a hot start.



Maine opens its season with a matchup against New Hampshire, which will be a good indicator of whether or not the Black Bears are ready to take a step forward into contention after finishing seventh in the CAA in 2017.



In what will be head coach Jimmie Laycock's 39th and final season at the helm, the Tribe has all the motivation it needs to make a playoff push. However, coming off a two-win season, William & Mary's work will be cut out for it.



After struggling both on the ground and through the air offensively in 2017, Albany must focus on moving the ball more efficiently this season. Running back Elijah Ibitokun-Hanks is finally healthy, but will he be enough?



The Rams are treading water, having not put together a winning season in 17 years. After allowing the most points per game in the CAA last year, Rhode Island doesn't have a very positive outlook for the 2018 campaign.

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David Eldridge lines up to face an opposing cornerback.

TREVOR COCKBURN / THE BREEZE



JAMES ALLEN/ THE BREEZE

Teammates surround graduate Jonathan Kloosterman as they celebrate his touchdown snag.



TREVOR COCKBURN / THE BREEZE

Graduate Bryan Schor sprints to escape a UNH defender.

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Head coach Mike Houston led the team to a 14-1 season in 2017.

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Ethan Ratke sends home a game-winning field goal against Weber State.

JAMES ALLEN / THE BREEZE



BREEZE FILE PHOTO

Kyre Hawkins makes a diving tackle of a Richmond receiver.



TREVOR COCKBURN / THE BREEZE

Graduate Jordan Brown celebrates during Family Weekend.



JAMES ALLEN / THE BREEZE

Riley Stapleton makes a leaping grab in the end zone.

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CARTER | Defensive lineman humbly accepts his role as a leader in the trenches



Carter strives to keep JMU's football culture the same throughout generations of players by keeping a quiet steady presence.

TREVOR COCKBURN / THE BREEZE

from page 6

"Ron'Dell is one of our bell cows," defensive coordinator Bob Trott said. "We're counting on his leadership, counting on him being one of those guys that leads this team."

The coaching staff is certainly behind Carter as the next star on the defensive line. While it won't be hard for JMU Nation to get behind Carter's success and make him the next quarterback killer of JMU opponents, the Baltimore native is looking to insert his most important lesson learned since sporting the purple and gold.

"I think [what] I'm really trying to do is keep that bond the same, keep our culture the same," Carter said. "We've got a bunch of new guys in and it was a large senior

class that left, so now we've got to basically instill the culture into the younger guys and to the new guys that transferred in."

The Dukes have prided themselves on a selfless identity, and 2018 projects to be the same. What's most interesting about this year's attitude is the number of FBS transfers on the roster. Houston has spoken about how some of these players choose to come in as big egos that hold themselves higher than the team, but he's been pleasantly surprised by the family feel from his unit and how they've all fit in. While Carter isn't technically new to this 2018 team, he carries that same camaraderie on a daily basis.

"I try not to think about personal expectations," Carter said. "I try not to, because the biggest thing is to win. I try

not to be an individual, and I think that's critical, especially if you're an older guy and people look at you as a leader."

With a healthier lifestyle, the coaches' approval and an increased role on the line, Carter is set for a monstrous campaign in 2018. While the mainstream media and college football experts haven't realized they've slept on his talent just yet, that time will come. When it does, however, Carter will have the same-sized ego and flatline demeanor — focused solely on bringing another national championship back to Harrisonburg.

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